

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed January 29, 2004, Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Menendez et al. (U.S. Patent 5,555,369) in view of May (U.S. Patent 6,421,653).

The foregoing rejections are respectfully traversed.

In accordance with the foregoing Claims 1-7, 9, and 11 have been amended.

Claims 1-12 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is presented.

1. Claim Rejections –

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Menendez et al. (U.S. Patent 5,555,369) in view of May (U.S. Patent 6,421,653).

Menendez et al. disclose “a development environment and method in which a first computer system is used to develop and package an application (or other material) for use in a second computer system – preferably a pen-based computer – having a graphical user interface...a palette containing lists and/or buttons of “components” representing graphical interface elements such as slide bars, dialog boxes, buttons, check boxes, icons, menus, etc...the user develops “views” on the layout window by (1) selecting a component from the palette and (2) drawing a border for the view in the layout window...represents a “template” which is an object (sometimes referred to as a “frame” herein) having a plurality of “slots” defining the structure and behavior of the graphical interface element associated with the view”. (Col. 2, lines 28-45). Menendez et al. also disclose “a decision step determines whether the user is using a palette, a step...a process step handles any user selections from the palette...user is not using a palette, a step modifies an existing view in the layout window based upon steps taken by the user”. (Col. 14, lines 24-30). Menendez et al. further disclose that “the user can select a component from either pop-up menu or one of the view buttons on the palette...” (Col. 14, lines 45-47).

May discloses “an improved electronic trading systems for trading derivative financial instruments”. (Col. 5, lines 29-31). May also discloses that “the credit preference interface includes a display window that displays various information including an alphabetical listing of all other legal entities...user can modify the displayed credit groups by selecting the Modify Credit Groups button which launches the modify credit group interface...Unassigned instruments can

be added and member instruments can be removed...credit groups can be added and deleted via buttons..." (Col. 28, lines 32-59).

Menendez et al. in view of May disclose "a development environment and method in which a first computer system is used to develop and package an application (or other material) for use in a second computer system – preferably a pen-based computer – having a graphical user interface..." (See Col. 1, lines 49-54) including a user being able to "modify the displayed" information. (See Col. 28, lines 32-59).

2. Patentably Distinguishing the Present Invention over Menendez et al. and May –

The present invention, on the other hand, patentably distinguishes over Menendez et al. and May as it includes "setting whether the interface is permitted to be embedded into the application program or not". (See for example Claim 1). Further, the present invention includes "a layout component selection module that selects the layout component which lays out a plurality of components to be laid out". (See for example Claim 4). The present invention also includes "a specification designating module designating the layout specification record applicable to the application program developed by the group". (See for example Claim 6).

Claims 1-7, 9, and 11 have been amended for consistency and to patentably distinguish the present invention over the cited references.

In contrast the foregoing references relied upon, Claim 1 recites (in part):

"A program development device developing an application program...comprising:

...
an interface selection module having said interface selected for said selected component, and setting whether said selected interface is permitted to be embedded into said application program or not;
a recording unit retaining a set record of setting whether said interface is permitted to be embedded into said application program or not; and
an edit module supporting the development of the program by use of said interface set to be permitted to be embedded into said application program or said interface that is not set to be inhibited to be embedded into said application program in accordance with the set record."

In contrast the foregoing references relied upon, Claim 4 recites (in part):

"A program development device developing an application program...comprising:
a layout component selection module selecting said layout component which lays out a plurality of components to be laid out;
..."

In contrast the foregoing references relied upon, Claim 7 recites (in part):

“A program development method of developing an application...comprising:

...

setting whether said selected interface is permitted to be embedded into said application program or not;
recording whether said selected interface is permitted to be embedded into said application program or not; and
developing the program by use of said interface set to be permitted to be embedded in to said application program or said interface that is not set to be inhibited to be embedded into said application program in accordance with the above recording.”

In contrast the foregoing references relied upon, Claim 8 recites (in part):

“A program development method of developing an application...comprising:

selecting said components which lays out a plurality of components;
selecting said plurality of components to be laid out in said selected layout component;
prescribing a layout specification for laying out said plurality of components;

...

developing the program by laying out said plurality of components in said layout component in accordance with the layout specification.”

In contrast the foregoing references relied upon, Claim 9 recites (in part):

“A readable-by-computer recording medium recorded with a program...comprising:

...

setting whether said selected interface is permitted to be embedded into said application program or not;
recording whether said selected interface is permitted to be embedded into said application program or not; and
developing the program by use of said interface set to be permitted to be embedded into said application program or said interface that is not set to be inhibited to be embedded into said application program in accordance with the above recording.”

In contrast the foregoing references relied upon, Claim 10 recites (in part):

“A readable-by-computer recording medium recorded with a program...comprising:

selecting said component which lays out a plurality of components;

...

prescribing a layout specification for laying out said plurality of components;

...

developing the program by laying out said plurality of components in said layout component in accordance with the layout specification.”

In contrast the foregoing references relied upon, Claim 11 recites (in part):

“A data communication signal embodied in a carrier wave containing a program code module...comprising:

...

setting whether said selected interface is permitted to be embedded into said application program or not;

recording whether said selected interface is permitted to be embedded into said application program or not; and

developing the program by use of said interface set to be permitted to be embedded into said application program or said interface that is not set to be inhibited to be embedded into said application program in accordance with the above recording.”

In contrast the foregoing references relied upon, Claim 12 recites (in part):

“A data communication signal embodied in a carrier wave containing a program code module...comprising:

selecting said component which lays out a plurality of components;

selecting said plurality of component to be laid out in said selected layout component;

prescribing a layout specification for laying out said plurality of components;

...

developing the program by laying out said plurality of components in said layout component in accordance with the layout specification.”

All independent Claims 1, 4, and 7-12 patentably distinguish over the cited references relied upon.

In addition, dependent Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 recite patentably distinguishing features of their own. For example, claim 2 recites “...wherein said edit module supports the development of the program by use of said interface set to be permitted to be embedded into said application program in the specified set record or said interface that is not set”.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections of Claims 1-12 is respectfully requested.

3. Argument Summary –

None of the cited references including Menendez et al. and May disclose or suggest the foregoing features of the present invention.

None of the cited references including Menendez et al. and May disclose or suggest “setting whether the interface is permitted to be embedded into the application program or not”. Further, none of the cited references disclose or suggest “a layout component selection module

- that selects the layout component which lays out a plurality of components to be laid out". The cited references further fail to disclose or suggest "a specification designating module designating the layout specification record applicable to the application program developed by the group".

4. Concluding Remarks –

The present invention is not obvious over Menendez et al. and May because the references alone and collectively fail to teach or describe the above features of the present invention.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested. Further, allowance of Claims 1-12 is respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.


Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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